

## REPORTS FROM LOCAL UNIONS

### Painters, Paperhangers, and Decorators Union of America

The Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America met on the 16th and had the pleasure of initiating five new members and received two proposals. The good things are evidently coming our way at last. On account of the loss of our late president, Bro. Bott, we elected Bro. Stewart to take up the higher position, and appointed Bro. Gray as vice-pres. in Bro. Stewart's place. We also concluded the usual routine business and finally wound up with the usual blessings? on the Regina band.

### Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners

The regular Quarterly Meeting held on Sept. 11 was well attended and the following officers were elected: Pres., J. Barland; vice-pres., B. Simmons; chief steward, H. Walking; sick steward, J. R. Steele; doorkeeper, A. Walking; trustees, Bros. Barland, Bowers, Packer, Simmons and Craine.

A joint meeting of the Amalgamated Society and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners was held on Sept. 12, when a splendid feeling of unity was expressed and if the boys always show the same spirit they will pull together in first-class style.

### Brotherhood of Railway Carmen

The Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America assembled in biennial session at the Grand Pacific hotel, Chicago, on Sept. 10. Delegates representing over 400 lodges were in attendance. The present membership of the order is \$3,000, an increase of 13,000 in the last year. Among the important matters that came before the delegates was the universal classification of car work, changes in the laws of the order relative to car work, changes in the laws of the order relative to the adjustment of grievances and in the basis of representation. Officials of a number of railroads and representatives of the government bureau of labor and statistics delivered addresses during the convention.

### SCOTLAND WOOLLEN MILLS LOCK-OUT

No Settlement has been Arrived at Yet, but Officer of International Union is now in Winnipeg

The lock out of the garment workers at the Scotland Woollen Mills came as a great surprise to organized labor in the west. Officials of the local union state that the kindest feelings had existed between the employers and themselves and their discharge in a body came as a great surprise. The only explanation offered to the workers was to the effect that the firm was giving up business but almost immediately afterwards an attempt was made to get non-union workers to accept employment in the factory, the name of the late foreman being used as employer. This

failed and the firm is now openly endeavoring to run a non-union factory. Mr. Samuel Landers, Hamilton, a member of the International Executive Board of the United Garment Workers Union, is at present in Winnipeg, and hopes are entertained that by his efforts a settlement of the dispute may be arrived at.

The Scotland Woollen Mills have many branches throughout the west, and their action in opposing union labor will stir up considerable animosity amongst the vast army of unionists in this province. Many of our wage-earners who had been contemplating with pleasure the possibility of having their fall or winter suit made by this firm under union conditions will now be compelled to look elsewhere if they desire to patronize their fellow unionists in the clothing trade and wear a suit carrying the label of the Garment Workers of America.

## THE LABOR PRESS

Trade Unionists Should Support Their Party Papers—Labor Press Doing Good Work

The various papers in Canada and the United States devoted exclusively to the interests of labor are certainly doing a great work. They place the views of the working man before the general public, they encourage and keep alive the spirit of organization, and they create an atmosphere of permanency that has done much to place the trade union movement on a sound and logical basis. But union men should not be content to applaud occasionally while the work proceeds—they should give the labor press their heartiest support, both financially and otherwise. It is the bounden duty of a trade unionist to support his local labor paper as religiously and systematically as the adherents of other parties help on their various local organs. A paper cannot be run on nothing, and, as the advertising section is, in a sense, limited, the main support must of necessity come from the subscribers. In this connection union men would do well to take heed of the following recommendation which was adopted by the International Typographical Union at their recent convention:

"In the battle of the trade union movement for a better standard of living and for the final emancipation of the working class—the labor press of every description is the best weapon of attack and the strongest wall of defense. And while we are so fortunate to have an excellent mouthpiece in the Typographical Journal, the work of our organ ought to be supplemented and extended by the local labor press. We therefore recommend to all the subordinate unions and to the members of the International Typographical Union to subscribe for the respective local labor papers, to assist them by advertisements whenever there is an occasion, and also in every other legal and honorable way. And we especially recommend the patronizing of the job departments of labor papers wherever such department is to be found—this recommendation being in accordance with the resolution of the convention of the American Federation of Labor held at Minneapolis in November, 1906.

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## Cigar Makers' International Union

Want Unionists to Smoke Union Made Cigars—A Brief History of the International

The above union are requesting that union men ask for the blue label on all cigars they buy, and we heartily endorse this request. The union man who will smoke a scab made cigar is a poor specimen of humanity, and deserves all that is coming to him. Most of the non-union cigars are made by the big cigar trust companies, who use unscrupulous methods and employ nothing but cheap non-union labor.

A brief review of the history of the International Union of Cigar Makers will illustrate the splendid and helpful effect of a substantial chain of benefits upon the stability of the membership. During the period in the history of the Cigar Makers' International Union, when the constitution only provided for strike benefits, they had:

1869—5,800 members.  
1873—(Panic) 3,771 members.  
1874—(Stagnation) 2,167 members.  
1875—(Stagnation) 1,604 members.  
1877—(Stagnation) 1,016 members.  
1879—(Revival) 1,250 members.

From 1873 to 1879 the Cigar Makers' International Union could not pay the strike benefits provided for in the Constitution, because it had no permanent sinking fund; hence wages were reduced to a starvation point.

In 1879 the convention, held in the city of Buffalo, N. Y., adopted a uniform initiation fee and dues, and a permanent sinking fund. It provided for a strike fund and the travelling loaning system. Every dollar promised then has been paid in full.

In 1880, at the convention held in the city of Chicago, Ill., sick and death benefits were embodied in the Constitution, and the weekly dues raised accordingly.

The following shows the effect of benefits on the membership:

1880—3,870 members.  
1881—12,400 members.  
1882—11,430 members.  
1883—13,214 members.

In 1889, at the convention held in the city of New York, another benefit was embodied in the Constitution. It provided for an out-of-work benefit of three dollars weekly, for a limited time and under certain conditions. The effect of the out-of-work benefit in the stability of membership follows:

1889—17,555 members.  
1890—24,624 members.  
1893—(Panic) 26,788 members.  
1894—(Stagnation) 27,826 members.  
1899—(Revival) 28,944 members.  
1904—(Normal) 41,536 members.

Since the adoption of the benevolent and protective features, the union has paid the following benefits:

Strike benefits.....\$1,136,839.59  
Sick benefits.....2,364,172.25  
Death benefits.....1,700,040.16  
Travelling loans.....1,042,428.19  
Out-of-work benefit.....1,069,777.11

Total benefits.....\$7,813,257.29  
The cash balance increased in 27 years from \$125.55 to \$714,506.14.

The foregoing shows that during the period of stagnation during the '70's, when the Cigar Makers' Union had no funds or benefits, they lost heavily in membership, and that during the stagnation in the '90's, when they had a substantial fund and a chain of benefits, they did not lose a member.

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